

Advisory Social Services Board (ASSB)
Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 7:00pm-8:30pm
Zoom Virtual Platform due to COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees:

City of Falls Church	Mary Wilcox
City of Fairfax	Andre Lee
Lee District	Hasan Shah, Secretary
Mason District	Julian De Phillips
Mount Vernon District	Raymond McGrath
Providence District	Laura Martinez, Chair
Sully District	Alice Foltz, Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Braddock District	Karen Darley
Dranesville District	Ben Zuhl
Hunter Mill District	Joe Koszarek
Springfield District	Amrita Banerjee

Staff Present:

- Michael Becketts, DFS Director
- Melanie Fenwick, DFS Senior Policy Manager
- Kristina Jordan, DFS Documentarian
- Amy Carlini, DFS Communications Director
- Sarah Allen, Deputy Director, Neighborhood and Community Services
- Chloe Lee, Principal Data Scientist, Department of Management and Budget

This meeting was held via Zoom Virtual Platform due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The public was able to access this meeting by dialing 888-270-9936 and then entering the conference code 371526.

Meeting Opening:

- Laura Martinez, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
- Laura Martinez read the electronic meeting script as authorized by FOIA and performed roll call establishing that each member can hear each other.

Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes from January 18, 2023, meeting was approved by the board with a correction to the date in the title of the minutes.

Public Comment

- Chair Laura Martinez discussed the addition of the agenda item 'Public Comment' to promote inclusive engagement with the public due to a recent increase in attendance by the public. Discussed the need to adhere to a specific procedure to manage time and agenda. Board agreed to procedures.
- There were no members of the public present.

Director's Announcements

- Dr. Becketts, DFS Director, informed the board that local state of emergency which has allowed public bodies to continue meeting virtually will end on March 1. The next meeting will be held in person. A light dinner will be provided. Please contact Melanie Fenwick if you need to request an ADA accommodation for 100% remote participation or for any necessary accommodation pursuant to the American Disabilities Act.
- Please review the Remote Participation Policy was resent with the meeting packet. The policy can be used by ASSB members for the following reasons –
 1. Member is unable to physically attend a meeting due to a temporary or permanent disability or other medical condition that prevents the member's physical attendance.
 2. Member is unable to physically attend due to a family member's medical condition that requires the member to provide care for such family member, thereby preventing the member's physical attendance.
 3. Member is unable to attend due to a personal matter. The member must identify with specificity the nature of the personal matter. Remote participation due to a personal matter is limited each calendar year to two meetings or 25 percent of the meetings held per calendar year rounded up to the next whole number, whichever is greater.
- Chair Martinez assisted the ASSB members to come to consensus on holding in-person meetings at a central location to ensure ease of access.
- Dr. Becketts provided an update on the upcoming changes to SNAP allotments due to the ending of the public health emergency. He shared elements of the communication campaign around the pending changes. Changes will occur on March 16, with emergency allotments no longer available after February 16, 2023.
- ASSB members had a robust conversation on the pending changes to Medicaid benefits and what its members can do to address shortfalls in services.

2022 Annual Report

- Amy Carlini, DFS Communications Director provided an update on the annual report that was included in the meeting packet.
- Raymond McGrath shared some of the revisions he suggested to the report as well as highlighted some keep aspects of the report that are worth including in discussion of the county supervisors.
- ASSB members approved the report being finalized.

Fairfax County Youth Survey

- Sarah Allen, Deputy Director, Neighborhood and Community Services and Chloe Lee, Principal Data Scientist, Department of Management and Budget provided a review of the youth survey.
- Ms. Lee recommended the dashboard on the County website as a way to dig more deeply into the survey results and themes.
- Director Becketts helped crystalize how the ASSB can help respond to some of the challenges recognized in the youth survey.

Election of ASSB Vice Chair and Secretary

- Chair Laura Martinez facilitated the election of the ASSB Vice Chair and Secretary for 2023.
- Chair asked if there were any self-nominations.
- Receiving none, the Chair nominated Raymond McGrath to serve as Vice Chair and Hasan Shah to serve as Secretary.
- Vice Chair Alice Foltz motioned to approve the nominations. All members voted in favor of electing Ray McGrath as Vice Chair and Hasan Shah as Secretary.

Chair's Announcements:

- Chair Laura Martinez thanked the board for their time and input, and staff for their support.

Adjourned:

- Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next ASSB meeting:

- Wednesday, March 15, 2023, from 7:00pm-8:30pm.
- The meeting will take place in person at the Pennino Building, 12011 Room 505.
- A light dinner will be provided; expect to receive a short survey from Melanie Fenwick regarding any dietary needs.